

Date: April 6, 2004

RE: RM-10868

To whom it may concern:

As stated in my comment on RM-10867, I believe that by arbitrarily granting people privileges they have not earned, and have not proven they understand, the FCC would be aiding in the erosion of amateur radio as we know it today. The idea that making entrance into any field of study easier simply to get more involvement in that field is absurd. I believe that privileges in amateur radio, as in any walk of life, should be earned by proving that a candidate knows the material. I say this because what the FCC allows me to do with my license is just that, a privilege, not a right as some would have you believe. If the RAF, an "unincorporated grassroots organization" wants to allow people to experience HF privileges, then they should mentor and assist with educating these individuals, and not push to lessen the requirements to earn privileges.

Please don't dumb down my hobby by allowing this proposal to go through. If anything, the rules and requirements for obtaining an amateur radio license need made more stringent, not unlike the proposal RM-10869, but more specifically, the way they were 5 years ago.

People should earn their privileges not have them given to them arbitrarily.

Thank You,
Glen A. Powell